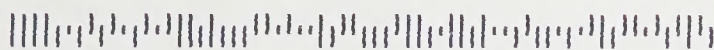


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How your co-op works
Candidates for governor

What Stauer Clients Are Saying
About Our Hybrid Watches



"Great watch... an
impressive piece straight
out of the box."

— C. FROM COLORADO



**Suggested
Retail \$395...
NOW, on your
wrist for \$49
For a limited
Time Only**

No More Mr. Nice Watch

Forget sleek and subtle, the Stauer Colossus Hybrid is one tough timepiece...now for less than \$50!

Never underestimate your competition. Just ask Demetrius, the unfortunate Greek general who set out to conquer Rhodes in 305 BC. He assumed that a massive force of 40,000 men, a fleet of Aegean pirates and an arsenal of wall-smashing war machines would be enough to crush the tiny Greek island. He was wrong. The Rhodians were tougher than he thought. And so is this watch. If you've always believed that the biggest, baddest watches had to cost big, bad money, the \$49 Stauer *Colossus Hybrid Chronograph* is here to change your mind.

A monument to toughness. The people of Rhodes were ready for Demetrius and repelled his attack. To celebrate, they built the Colossus of Rhodes, a 107-foot bronze and iron giant that towered over the harbor like a ten-story trophy. It warned future invaders that "Rhodes is tougher than you think." You give the same message when you wear the Stauer *Colossus*.

The timepiece that works twice as hard. In designing the *Colossus Hybrid Chronograph*, our instructions to the watchmaker were clear: build it as tough as a battleship and fill it full of surprises. Make it a hybrid, because it should work twice as hard as a regular watch. And make it look like a million bucks, because when you put it on, you should get excited about rolling up your sleeves. Mission accomplished.

A toolbox on your wrist. It will keep you on schedule, but the *Colossus Hybrid* is about much more than time. The imposing case features a rotating gunmetal bezel that frames the silver, black and yellow face. You'll find a battalion of digital displays on the dial arranged behind a pair of luminescent hands and a bold yellow second hand.

Powered by a precise quartz movement, the watch is doubly accurate in analog and digital mode. And it's packed with plenty of handy extras including a bright green EL back-light for enhanced nighttime visibility, a tachymeter along the outer dial and a full complement of alarms and split-second countdown timers. The *Colossus Hybrid* secures with a folded steel bracelet that highlights a row of striking dark center links. It's a rugged watch that's more than ready for your daily grind.

Your Satisfaction is Guaranteed. Wear the Stauer *Colossus Hybrid* for 30 days and if you are not 100% thrilled with your purchase, return it for a full refund of your purchase price. But once you get a taste of more watch for less money, it's likely you'll be back for more... and we'll be waiting.

WATCH SPECS: -Easy-to-read analog/digital modes -Back-lighting and luminescent hands -Tachymeter, countdown timers and alarms
-Folded stainless steel bracelet fits a 6 3/4"-9" wrist

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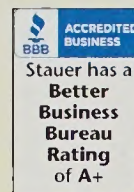
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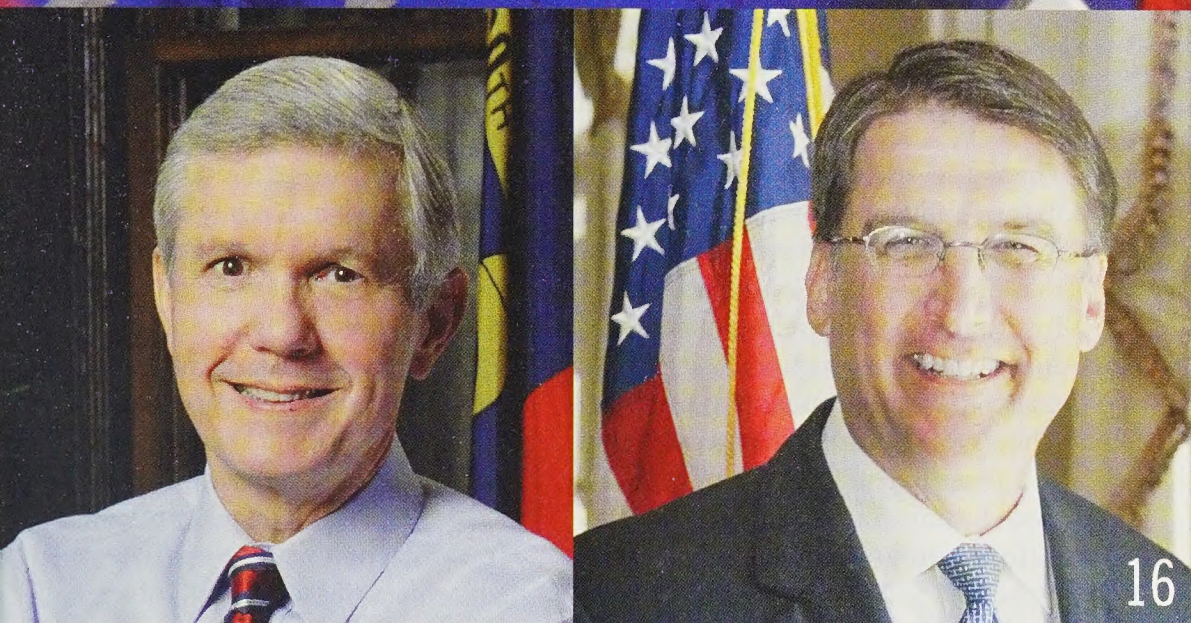
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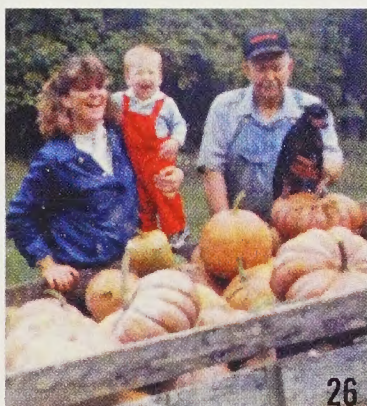
How Gary Woods tapped energy underground to save on his electricity costs.

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ON THE COVER

Mel McCay, a docent at the Rural Hill historic site, portrays the trials of Overmountain Men during the Revolutionary War. Rural Hill's famous Amazing Maize Maze is open weekends through Nov. 4. For more about Rural Hill in EnergyUnited's service area, Huntersville, Mecklenburg County, see page 28. (Photography by Dick Gardner.)



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Your cooperative sends you Carolina Country as a convenient, economical way to share with its members information about services, director elections, meetings and management decisions. The magazine also carries legal notices that otherwise would be published in other media at greater cost.

Your co-op's board of directors authorizes a subscription to Carolina Country on behalf of the membership at a cost of less than \$4 per year.

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Soy ink is naturally low in VOCs (volatile organic compounds) and its usage can reduce emissions causing air pollution.

Confidence in cooperatives



By Sheldon C. Petersen

The last several years have seen erosion in the confidence Americans have in many of our institutions. According to Gallup's annual "Confidence in Institutions" survey released in June, Americans are giving increasingly low marks to institutions such as public schools, big business, the media, banks and government. Only the military, small business, and the police — out of 16 institutions tested — registered higher than 50 percent confidence levels. This year's poll found record-low confidence in banks, television news and public schools, with scores ranging from 21 percent for banks to 29 percent for public schools. Congress ranked dead last, at a confidence level of just 13 percent.

Gallup has been polling Americans about their confidence in institutions since 1973, and over the past five years more than half of the institutions Gallup measures have registered record-low confidence ratings — indicating that declining confidence seems to be part of a broad pattern, rather than a product of isolated issues facing individual institutions.

What's going on with the public psyche? Surely the banking crisis and weak economy have had a huge impact. But I think there's more to it. There's an increasing disconnect between the expectations of Americans and what they're getting from their institutions. That's because, in many cases, the interests of institutions and those they serve are no longer aligned. When that happens, satisfaction levels drop, and you get an erosion of trust.

Cooperatives on the other hand — including electric co-ops, according to Touchstone Energy surveys conducted in recent years — still enjoy high levels of satisfaction among members by embracing a business model that aligns corporate interests with those of member-owners. Co-ops are not-for-profit businesses that focus on providing quality service at the lowest

possible cost. Co-ops allocate margins to members when revenue exceeds costs. Co-ops embrace democratic governance. Co-ops focus on operating in the best interests of members.

In essence, the cooperative business model is designed to align co-op interests with those of our member-owners. That's something very rare in today's society, and I think it's a key reason why satisfaction with co-ops has stayed high, while satisfaction with other institutions has been declining.

I believe a key to sustaining member satisfaction is to encourage member engagement. And the key to member engagement is member identification as a co-op owner. Co-op owners appreciate the member/co-op relationship. They understand it's a two-way relationship, and they recognize that with ownership comes responsibility. Engaged co-op owners know that their actions impact the co-op and, by extension, the benefits they derive from the co-op. Owners have greater trust in the co-op, and a stronger belief that the co-op is looking out for their interests.

Benjamin Graham, the father of value investing, was fond of saying: "Price is what you pay. Value is what you get." A co-op's relationship with its member-owners is based on a belief in the considerable value jointly created during the course of the long relationship — 70 or more years old in many cases — between a cooperative and its owners. The value a cooperative delivers is derived from a shared history, aligned interests and mutual trust. That's where confidence comes from.

Sheldon C. Petersen is CEO of the National Rural Utilities Cooperative Finance Corporation (CFC), a nonprofit finance cooperative created and owned by America's electric cooperative network. With approximately \$20 billion in assets, CFC is committed to providing unparalleled industry expertise, flexibility and responsiveness to serve the needs of its member-owners. CFC can be found online at www.nrucfc.coop.

Cut out coal?

After reading the letter concerning the cost of coal in the September issue, I began to think about what would happen if we suddenly closed all coal-fired power plants. I understand that in 2009 almost half the electricity in the U.S. was generated using coal; and I might add at a reasonable price. What would people be willing to give up—and be willing to pay—in order to stop using coal? Would it be our TV, computers, air conditioners, heat pumps, washing machines, cell phones, lighting? I know what it is like to live without those conveniences. In rural Lincoln County in the 1940s in a house with no power, I saw my mother (who is almost 97) cook on a wood cookstove on the hottest summer days and my father draw water from an open well both for drinking and washing clothes. With no running water, the privy was our only “bathroom.” Try that on a cold winter day! Our only heat was from an open fireplace or a lone wood heater. I don’t want to go back to those days.

Robert Helton, Stanley, EnergyUnited

Practically speaking

Concerning the use of coal as this country’s main source of fuel, two facts surface. No matter how much in favor of the green movement many Americans are, wind and solar can’t and will not replace fossil fuels in most of our lifetimes. The technology at this time is not there, and trying to force it into place quickly has cost billions of federal dollars. Witness the Solyndra debacle. Secondly, our government’s restrictions on nuclear power plants have all but killed that alternative to the use of fossil fuels. People opposed to the use of coal without a cost-effective, practical alternative exist in an ideological world. Hundreds of giant windmills that only provide 20 or 30 percent of an area’s electricity needs are not the answer. Hopefully, we are approaching the end of the era where our federal government’s answer to everything seems to be more regulation.

*Gerald Yokely, Tobaccoville,
Surry Yadkin EMC*



Snaking in

Has anyone ever seen a snake do this before? The hummingbirds were not too happy to have it at their feeder.

Dawn Roberts, Rutherford EMC

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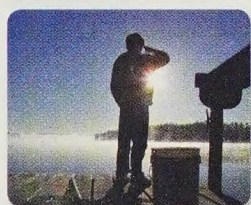
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Send us your favorite photo (North Carolina people or scenes) and the story that goes with it. We will pay \$50 for each one that we publish in our Carolina Country Scenes gallery in the February 2013 magazine.

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Deadline: December 10, 2012.

One entry per household.

Digital photos should be a minimum of 1200 by 1800 pixels.
Prints a minimum of 4 x 6 inches.

Include your name, electric co-op, mailing address and e-mail address or phone number.

If you want your print returned, include a self-addressed, stamped envelope. (We will not return others.)

We pay \$50 for each submission published. We retain reprint rights.

We will post on our Web site more entries than we publish, but can't pay for those submissions. (Let us know if you don't agree to this.)

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The invention of the year is great news for your ears

*Perfect Choice HD™ is easy to use,
hard to see and costs far less...
it's like reading glasses for your ears™!*

New Personal Sound Amplification Product is an affordable alternative

Over the years, technology has made the way we live easier, safer and more convenient. In many cases, it's even made many products more affordable... (remember how much the first VCR used to cost?). Unfortunately, the cost of hearing aids never seemed to come down. Now, a new alternative has been invented... it's called Perfect Choice HD™.

"Reading glasses for your ears"

Perfect Choice HD is NOT a hearing aid. Hearing aids can only be sold by an audiologist or a licensed hearing instrument specialist. In order to get a hearing aid, you had to go to the doctor's office for a battery of tests and numerous fitting appointments. Once they had you tested and fitted, you would have to pay as

much as \$5000 for the product. Now, thanks to the efforts of the doctor

who leads a renowned hearing institute, there is Perfect Choice HD. It's designed to accurately amplify sounds and deliver them to your ear. Because we've developed an efficient production process, we can make a great product at an affordable price. The unit has been designed to have an easily accessible battery, but it is small and lightweight enough to hide behind your ear... only you'll know you have it on.

Perfect Choice HD feature comparison

	Perfect Choice HD	Others
Lightweight and Inconspicuous	YES	Some
Easy Toggle Switch Adjustment	YES	Few
Setting Memory	YES	Few
Tests and Fittings Required	NO	Most
Affordable	YES	as much as \$5000
Friendly Return Policy	YES	Rarely

It's comfortable and won't make you feel like you have something stuck in your ear. It provides high quality audio so sounds and conversations will be easier to hear and understand.

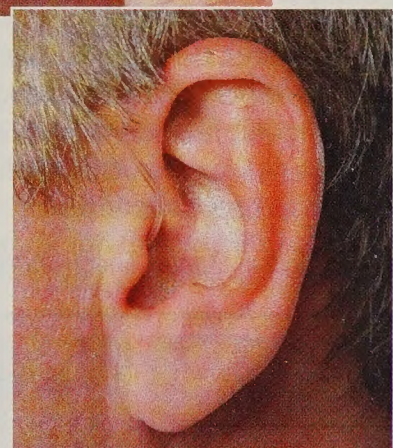
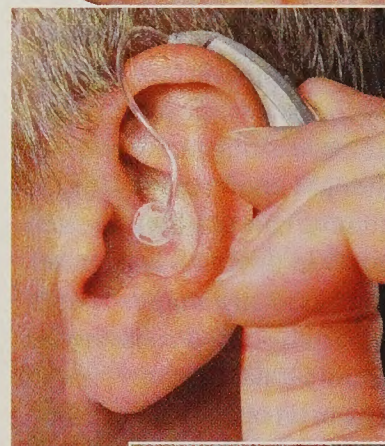
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Kennedy rescuing the crew of
PT 109. These men made history.

This set made history

To celebrate the bicentennial of America, the U.S. Mint struck this special three-piece proof set honoring these three American presidents—and our 200th birthday. To capture the bicentennial spirit, the coins in the set are dual-dated 1776–1976.

This set was so popular over 4 million were sold.

Unlike the regular circulating coins of the day, these coins are struck in 40% precious silver.

It's the first commemorative U.S. Mint Proof Set ever. It's also the first proof set to feature all dual-dated coins. And finally, it's the first U.S. Proof Set to include a Silver Dollar.

Americans love proof coins from the U.S. Mint. Each coin is struck twice from specially prepared dies and has deeply-mirrored surfaces and superb frosty images.

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CO-OPS & COMMUNITY JOBS

Lumbee River EMC extends loans for projects in Robeson and Hoke counties

Lumbee River EMC is boosting a major upgrade for the Robeson County Detention Center and is likewise helping Hoke County complete a sewer service expansion project intended to attract considerable residential and commercial development along Hwy. 401.

For the Robeson County Detention Center, Lumbee River EMC added a \$250,000 zero-interest loan that will improve the facility and save jobs. Of the Lumberton center's 139 employees, 55 of their jobs will be saved with this facility upgrade. The Red Springs electric co-op obtained the loan through the U.S. Department of Agriculture's rural development program.

A June 2011 visit by the N.C. Department of Health and Human Services determined that the jail facility was overcrowded and deemed certain areas to be uninhabitable. The Detention Center faced potential closure if these violations were not resolved.

The modernization of the jail is expected to cost nearly \$800,000. The county has already spent \$110,000 as part of the first phase of this project and expects to spend a total of \$682,240 in the second phase.

The cooperative is also providing an additional \$50,000 zero-interest loan while Robeson County, in turn, is providing \$382,240 to help purchase 71 energy efficient air conditioners to replace obsolete and non-functioning units at the facility, as well as new locks, lighting, wire mesh and an intercom system as part of the modernization project.

Hoke County sewer expansion

The Hoke County project involves a \$60,000 LREMC matching zero-interest loan to Hoke County to complete



a \$14.6 million sewer service expansion project. The expansion includes a new wastewater treatment plant, pump equipment and supporting pipe infrastructure.

The treatment plant will add 1.5 million gallons per day to the county's wastewater treatment capacity, helping the county accommodate new economic development along the growing U.S. 401 Corridor, including new commercial, professional, industrial and high-density residential, and the development of health care services. Both the First Health and Cape Fear Valley health systems have planned multi-phase developments within this corridor in order to fill the growing need for access to health care services throughout Hoke County, which may also eventually include a full-scale hospital. These medical facilities are expected to create some 300 new jobs in Hoke County.

Rural Hoke County is currently one of the fastest growing counties in North Carolina, largely as a result of its proximity to Fort Bragg. Fort Bragg, located partially within Hoke County, has been expanding rapidly in recent years due to new responsibilities assigned to the facility during the 2005 Base Realignment and Closure process. As a result, Hoke County is experiencing significant new residential and commercial development, and the county is faced with maintaining its rural character while providing municipal services to accommodate this new growth.

Electrical Fire Safety

About 28,600 home electrical fires occur during a typical year, leading to \$1.1 billion in property losses. Faulty electrical outlets and old wiring are the main causes of electrical fires, as are damaged cords, plugs, switches, and light fixtures.

The number one priority in a fire is to escape safely.



Only use a fire extinguisher if:

- 🔥 The fire department has been called.
- 🔥 Everyone has exited the building.
- 🔥 The fire is confined to a small area, such as a wastebasket, and is not growing.
- 🔥 The room is not filled with smoke.

Not all fire extinguishers are alike. Only a Class C extinguisher can be used on an electrical fire. Remember the word **PASS**:

Pull the pin. Hold the extinguisher with the nozzle pointing away from you and release the locking mechanism.

Aim low. Point the nozzle toward the base of the fire.

Squeeze the lever slowly and evenly.

Sweep the nozzle from side-to-side.

Remember: Know when to go.

Make sure you have a home fire escape plan and working smoke alarms.

Source: U.S. Fire Administration, National Fire Protection Association

NEXT MONTH: BRUNSWICK & COLUMBUS COUNTIES

Real-time information enhances Union Power's services

Union Power Cooperative, based in Monroe, is getting worldwide recognition for an online system that gives employees a real-time picture of how the co-op's utility system is operating at any time. Information appears on an easy-to-use map called Union Power Operations Dashboard.

In the event of a power outage, for example, office staff and field crews can see the location of the co-op's outages by county, as well as the number of outages, the number of members affected, where crews are working and the number of members whose power has been restored. The map updates automatically every minute, so users can get current information.

The Dashboard can be seen from smartphones, mobile Internet devices, as well as home and office computers.

Other services include historical outage information, data from Union's advanced metering system (such as voltage and momentary interruptions), priority service locations, service cut-offs, search-by-service work order and

location details, and meter-tampering indications. Within its first week of operation, the Dashboard identified more than \$3,000 in meter tampering that Union Power might not have known or would have needed the next billing cycle to discover.

In addition to opening information windows for management and staff, the system is a major aid in effectively scheduling, dispatching and monitoring co-op work in the field. All field service staff, customer service representatives and dispatchers have learned to use the Dashboard. Soon, linemen will be trained and trucks will have data connections.

The Dashboard recently was awarded the Special Achievement in GIS (SAG) award at the 2012 ESRI International User Conference. The award recognizes outstanding work with Geographical Information Systems technology. Union Power's project stood out from more than 100,000 others,



Union Power Cooperatives is employing a new GIS technology (Geographical Information System) that helps service crews work more efficiently.

reported ESRI (Environmental Systems Research Institute).

The system was developed by Union Power's engineering and operations support systems administrator Todd Harrington and manager of operations & engineering support David Gross.

Union Power is the Touchstone Energy cooperative that serves more than 66,000 member accounts in Union, Cabarrus, Stanly and parts of Mecklenburg and Rowan counties.

A D V E R T I S E M E N T

Clogged, Backed—up Septic System...Can anything Restore It?

DEAR DARRYL: My home is about 10 years old, and so is my septic system. I have always taken pride in keeping my home and property in top shape. In fact, my neighbors and I are always kidding each other about who keeps their home and yard nicest. Lately, however, I have had a horrible smell in my yard, and also in one of my bathrooms, coming from the shower drain. My grass is muddy and all the drains in my home are very slow.



Dear
Darryl

My wife is on my back to make the bathroom stop smelling and as you can imagine, my neighbors are having a field day, kidding me about the mud pit and sewage stench in my yard. It's humiliating. I called a plumber buddy of mine, who recommended pumping (and maybe even replacing) my septic system. But at the potential cost of thousands of dollars, I hate to explore that option.

I tried the store bought, so called, Septic treatments out there, and they did Nothing to clear up my problem. Is there anything on the market I can pour or flush into my system that will restore it to normal, and keep it maintained?

Clogged and Smelly – Charlotte, NC

DEAR CLOGGED AND SMELLY: As a reader of my column, I am sure you are aware that I have a great deal of experience in this particular field. You will be glad to know that there IS a septic solution that will solve your back-up and effectively restore your entire system from interior piping throughout the septic system and even unclog the drain field as well. **SeptiCleanse® Shock and Maintenance Programs** deliver your system the fast active bacteria and enzymes needed to liquefy solid waste and free the clogs causing your back-up.

This fast-acting bacteria multiplies within minutes of application and is specifically designed to withstand many of today's anti-bacterial cleaners, soaps and detergents. It comes in dissolvable plastic packs, that you just flush down your toilets. It's so cool. Plus, they actually Guarantee that it restores ANY system, no matter how bad the problem is.

SeptiCleanse® Shock and Maintenance Programs are designed to work on any septic system regardless of design or age. From modern day systems to sand mounds, and systems installed generations ago, I have personally seen SeptiCleanse unclog and restore these systems in a matter of weeks. I highly recommend that you try it before spending any money on repairs. SeptiCleanse products are available online at www.septicleanse.com or you can order or learn more by calling toll free at 1-888-899-8345. If you use the promo code "DARNC1", you can get a free shock treatment, added to your order, which normally costs \$169. So, make sure you use that code when you call or buy online.

Try This!

Ceiling fans can cut energy costs year-round

by Jim Dulley

Although people tend to link ceiling fans with summertime, ceiling fans can cut your electric bills in all seasons.

Depending on how you adjust your thermostat settings, they can cut your summertime bills. For cool months in late fall and winter, you can reverse the blade rotations to save energy. You flip the small switch on the side of the ceiling fan housing to reverse the rotation. Run the fan on low speed so it creates a gentle upward breeze (away from people in the room), which will force the warm air—which naturally rises—back down where it's needed. Then, you can set your furnace a few degrees lower and save energy there, too.

If you want to use fans to save energy, it's important to understand how they save energy.

Ceiling fans, when used properly in conjunction with your thermostat, can help lower electricity use.

much more electricity than the ceiling fan consumes.) In general, during warmer months (late spring and summer), run the ceiling fan on medium or high speed to create the cooling effect. If you install a ceiling fan and don't adjust your thermostat settings accordingly, you may be more comfortable, but it actually increases your cooling electric bills. Also remember that the fan itself does not cool air or things—fans cool people, so they should be turned off when the room is empty.

Some new ceiling fans also have a built-in electric heater with a hand-held remote thermostat/control. It functions the same way as a standard ceiling fan during summer. During winter, it automatically reverses rotation when it is switched to the heating mode. The heater allows you to take advantage of zone heating.

The size of a ceiling fan is rated by the diameter of the

During summer, ceiling fans cool the skin by creating a downward breeze, which should make you feel comfortable enough to turn up the air conditioner a few degrees. Look at the pitch of the blades to determine which rotation direction makes the air blow downward. (Setting the thermostat higher saves



This outdoor five-blade ceiling fan is mounted in a sunroom near a venting skylight. The blades are made of laminated hardwood.

blades. This is more important during summer when you want to feel the breeze on your skin. A common sizing rule of thumb is to use a 36-inch fan for rooms up to 150 square feet, a 48-inch fan for up to 300 square feet, and a 52-inch fan for up to 450 square feet. For larger rooms, use two fans spaced about one-quarter of the way in from opposing walls.

Price is often a good indication of the quality of a ceiling fan. Better ceiling fans typically have a greater pitch (twist) on the blades. This requires a more powerful motor, but it moves more air at a lower rotation speed. Lower speed results in less sound and less chance of annoying wobble. Some motors use more copper wire in the windings, up to several miles' worth, so they have a higher price.

A hand-held remote control is a convenient feature included with both inexpensive and pricier models. Natural wood blades are attractive, but inexpensive ones made of synthetic materials are generally well balanced. A rubber-mounted hub reduces noise and vibration. Even the best ceiling fans may require you to attach small balancing weights to stop wobble at high speed. 

Send inquiries to James Dulley, Carolina Country, 6906 Royalgreen Dr., Cincinnati, OH 45244 or visit www.dulley.com.

The following companies offer ceiling fans:

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Fanimation (888) 567-2055
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How Your Cooperative Operates

Member-owned businesses work for their members

When you flip a light switch, charge your cell phone and set your air conditioning, the electricity you need comes from a utility that you own. Like other members nearby, you are a part-owner of your electric cooperative. As you can imagine, the business of acquiring and delivering that electricity is very complex.

These days, the need for reliable electric power is more important than ever. And the cost of doing business is greater than ever. Your utility wants you to understand how it operates so that you can maintain confidence that your power will be there when you need it.

Your utility was formed in the 1930s or 1940s as a cooperative, at a time when people in your area desired electric service but were not getting it from other utilities. Back then, it did not make business sense for an investor-owned power company to run lines and poles to sparsely populated areas. So local residents formed their own cooperative business in which each member had an account and a “share” in the business. Then as now, a cooperative operates not to make a profit, but

to provide a service for its members.

In the U.S. today more than 29,200 businesses operate as member-owned cooperatives. Some examples are ACE Hardware, Farm Bureau Insurance, credit unions and food co-ops.

Globally, more than 1 billion people are members of co-ops that generate 100 million jobs. Your electric cooperative is one of nearly 900 member-owned electric utilities nationwide.

How are electric cooperatives different than other electric utilities? Here's how:

Locally owned Electric cooperatives are owned solely by the members, including businesses, who receive electric service. There are 26 such co-ops in North Carolina serving some 950,000 member-accounts and 2.5 million people in 93 counties. Members elect local people to a board of directors. The board, in turn, hires the general manager who is responsible for day-to-day operations of the cooperative.

Not-for-profit Your payments for electricity provide funds for your co-op to acquire electricity, to build and maintain the poles, lines and offices, and to meet such obligations as loan payments, insurance and taxes. As in many other businesses, these costs are inching higher, and your rates reflect the need to make ends meet. Once the business has provided for its expenses, any “profits” are returned to members (as “capital credits” or “member dividends”) according to their degree of patronage.

Democratic control All members have a voice and a vote in how their co-op operates. Annual meetings and elections encourage members to

participate. Co-ops regularly communicate with members on how the business operates so members can be informed and engaged.

Cooperation among cooperatives While each of the state's 26 electric co-ops operates independently, they work collectively when it makes sense to work together instead of alone. Co-ops work together to generate and buy electric power, acquire equipment, train staff, communicate with members (Carolina Country magazine, for example, is published by 24 subscribing co-ops), help each other after major power outages, participate in public policymaking, and other activities.

Community involvement As locally owned businesses, electric cooperatives have a stake in the prosperity of the communities they serve. That's why your cooperative is involved in donating to local organizations, grants for school teachers, membership in civic groups, loans for economic development projects, and support for businesses.

Cooperatives have existed since humans first joined in a mutually beneficial enterprise. Tribes organized as cooperatives. In the 1700s in Great Britain, cooperative businesses formed. Benjamin Franklin in the 1750s helped form the first insurance business owned by policyholders. In England in 1844, the Rochdale Society of artisans codified the Cooperative Principles still followed by co-op businesses today.

The cooperative business model works, and it works for you. ⓘ

This is the second in a series prepared by the North Carolina Association of Electric Cooperatives. Next month: A timeline of electric rates.

Did You Know?

Electric cooperatives have retired \$9.5 billion to members since 1988—\$626 million in 2010 alone. Because electric co-ops operate at cost, any excess revenues, called margins, are allocated and retired to members in the form of capital credits.

\$626 MILLION
in 2010
\$9.5 BILLION
since 1988

Source: National Rural Utilities
Cooperative Finance Corporation

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THE MYSTERIOUS BROWN MOUNTAIN LIGHTS

There's no explanation of why you see lights in these mountains at night

By Sherry Jackson

Mysterious lights have been appearing at Brown Mountain in the Linville Gorge area of North Carolina for hundreds of years. According to Cherokee legend, around 1200 A.D. a great battle was fought between the Cherokee and Catawba Indians at Brown Mountain and the mysterious lights are from the Indian maidens still searching for their men who died in battle.

Many people have tried to explain the origin of the lights over the years. In 1771, a German scientist explained the lights as inflamed nitrous vapors, but that was instantly disputed. A 1913 U.S. Geological Survey concluded that they were headlights from a locomotive, but when the tracks washed away three years later and people continued to see the lights that theory also was thrown out. During the early 1900s, the mysterious lights were thought to be aliens, and Brown Mountain was even featured in an American pulp magazine, *The Argosy*, telling people to go see the UFOs at Brown Mountain.

The lights have been reported as being white, red, yellow, orange and blue. They've been described looking like large balls of fire to small candle lights and from floating near the ground to rising up high into the sky. Bluegrass musician Scotty Wiseman wrote a song titled "Legend of the Brown Mountain Lights," and National Geographic has called Brown Mountain one of the three best places to experience a natural wonder.


A symposium held last February intended to "finally solve the mystery of this strange phenomenon." Burke County tourism director Ed Phillips brought in two notable experts, Joshua

Warren, a paranormal investigator, and Daniel Caton, a professor of physics and astronomy at Appalachian State University, both of whom have been studying the lights for years. The two men spent an entire afternoon duking it out between paranormal and science, exploring different theories, but in the end the lights remained a mystery.

Paranormal investigator Joshua Warren has been visiting Brown Mountain since his family took him camping there as a kid. On one such camping trip, Joshua says, he saw a ball of light climbing up through the trees and ascending into the sky. He's been returning with equipment and other investigators ever since.

As professor Caton says, what happens at Brown Mountain is up to your own interpretation. "All we have here are lights on a mountain. There are very few places on this earth where you can still go and explore these types of mysteries."

One local story recounts that in 1982 Morganton resident Tommie Hunter said he actually touched the lights at the Hwy.181 overlook. He had looked over the edge and saw a ball of light that was hovering, and he touched it. Tommie said it felt like he had stuck his finger in a light socket. Six other people were with Tommie that night and all corroborated his story.

So are the lights real? Joshua Warren and professor Caton say that's not even the question anymore. The question now is: What are they? For now, at least, they are simply one of North Carolina's greatest mysteries. 

Sherry Jackson is a writer in Greenville, S.C., who specializes in interesting travel experiences. Visit www.dragonflyventures.com.



Seeing Brown Mountain Lights

Plan your visit: The town of Morganton is the starting point to view the lights. Check Burke County's tourism website (www.discoverburkecounty.com) and www.brownmountainlights.com for travel information and special Brown Mountain Light events (including tours led by Joshua Warren, where you can be certified as a "Brown Mountain Investigator").

Where to see the lights: The best viewing location is probably Brown Mountain Overlook, on Highway 181 between mile marker 20 and 21. Wiseman's View is another good viewing location but it's a little harder to get to. It's located on a gravel road about 5 miles south of Linville Falls on State Road 1238.

When to go: The best time to see them is at night. More reports also happen right after it rains. Although the lights have been reported at all times of the year, most believe October and November to be the best times.

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Candidates for Governor: Q&A

The North Carolina Association of Electric Cooperatives asked the two major candidates for governor questions that are important to electric cooperatives and the communities they serve.



Walter H. Dalton, Democrat

Walter Dalton is the state's 33rd lieutenant governor, elected in 2008. Prior to that, he represented Cleveland and Rutherford counties for 12 years in the N.C. Senate—the same district his father represented—where he chaired the Education Committee and Appropriations Committee and led initiatives for “early college” high schools and rural development. He grew up in Spindale and earned business and law degrees from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He worked in banking, then practiced law in his home community, including 20 years as Rutherford County attorney. He chaired the Isothermal Community College board and serves as a lay speaker in the United Methodist Church. He and his wife, Lucille, have been married 40 years and have two grown children.



Patrick L. McCrory, Republican

Pat McCrory works for the law firm Moore and Van Allen, specializing in energy and economic development issues. From 1995–2009, he was mayor of Charlotte, serving seven terms, more than any Charlotte mayor. While mayor, he focused on business development, infrastructure, transportation, public safety and education at a time when the city grew to prominence as a financial center. Born in Ohio, he grew up in Guilford County and graduated from Catawba College, after which he worked 28 years for Duke Energy in Charlotte. He was elected three times to the city council before running for mayor. He was honorary chair of the local Alzheimer Foundation and Arthritis Foundation. He and his wife, Ann, have been married 24 years and live in Charlotte.

THE ELECTION

Voting Day:	Nov. 6
Early Voting:	Oct. 18–Nov. 3
Absentee Voting:	
Request ballot by	Oct. 30
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Walter Dalton

Q: Currently, North Carolina has one of the highest unemployment rates in the nation. Rural North Carolina counties began to struggle before other parts of the state and continue to experience an unemployment rate higher than the statewide average. What is your plan to improve employment opportunities in rural North Carolina?

As a product of rural North Carolina, creating jobs for our entire state will be a top priority as governor. For 30 years, I represented a rural electric co-op, so I know the value of these member-owned companies.



My background gives me a unique perspective on creating rural jobs. That's why I worked to create the Rural Infrastructure Fund with the Rural Center to fund water, sewer and economic development grants. That's also why I oppose cuts to this program by the legislature.

In addition, we can retrain our workforce for jobs in health services. Baby boomers are getting older, and jobs exist for nurses, nurses' assistants, rest home workers and other health professions. Bio-manufacturing is growing rapidly, and rural areas are well-suited for this economy. We must also encourage entrepreneurship and attract more military contracts.

I have worked to align our “early colleges,” which I helped create, with today's workforce needs. Finally, as chair of the New Generation Initiative, I am working with the Rural Center to encourage young people to create businesses in rural areas.

Keeping our taxes fair, job recruitment active, and our community colleges strong will be the keys to building jobs for the future.

Q: All electric service providers, including electric cooperatives, in the state face an era of rising electric rates because of the need for new generation, transmission and distribution, increased regulations, and changing consumer expectations. What plans do you have to address these challenges?

Rural areas deserve high-speed broadband and, with it, all residents will become part of the “smart grid” and save

countless dollars. We also need to pursue alternative fuels, and rural counties can lead in finding the solutions. The North Carolina Biofuels Center is working on generating energy from swine waste, switchgrass, kudzu and algae, and wind and solar are options as well.

Q: Locally owned and governed electric cooperatives do much more than deliver electricity; they actively work to improve the quality of life in the communities they serve through economic and community development projects. As governor, how will you seek the input of electric cooperatives as you encounter issues that impact the lives of those living in the rural areas of the state?

As the former attorney for a co-op, I know that they improve citizens' lives and recruit jobs to areas that need them the most. Nobody likes big government, but the Rural Electrification Act is good government, improving the quality of life and economic development for rural areas. Electric co-ops form the backbone of our rural economy, and we would not be able to create jobs without the Rural Electrification Act.

The rural co-ops will be integral to my job creation and economic planning. I know your statewide leaders, and they will have a seat at the policy table. I will invite the co-ops to help host town hall meetings in their service areas so government can learn issues facing rural residents. I also hope to partner with the co-ops to expand access to its rural loan programs.

Pat McCrory

Q: Currently, North Carolina has one of the highest unemployment rates in the nation. Rural North Carolina counties began to struggle before other parts of the state and continue to experience an unemployment rate higher than the statewide average. What is your plan to improve employment opportunities in rural North Carolina?

North Carolina now has the fifth highest unemployment rate in the country and 43 straight months of 9 percent unemployment—it is clear that we need new leadership and vision in the governor's office. To start a North Carolina comeback, we must strengthen our rural areas that have been hit hard during this economic downturn. Economic and job growth in only a few cities won't be enough to turn our state around.

Fixing North Carolina's economy and turning around our state's high unemployment rate must be the top priority of our next governor. We must be a state that grows, builds and



produces things, as opposed to a service economy that just buys things. To do this, we must start with tax reform that lowers corporate and personal income taxes to make North Carolina more competitive with its neighbors, reduce regulations to make government more responsive to business, develop a long-term transportation and infrastructure plan to remove politics from funding decisions, and take an "all-of-the-above" approach to energy and energy exploration to help power the economy with low-cost, reliable energy. My plan specifically targets agribusiness as an industry that we can help strengthen through an "ExportNC" initiative to get North Carolina's products to the world, vocational education to train the next generation of farmers, and support for agricultural research and extension.

Q: All electric service providers, including electric cooperatives, in the state face an era of rising electric rates because of the need for new generation, transmission and distribution, increased regulations, and changing consumer expectations. What plans do you have to address these challenges?

Ensuring low cost, reliable sources for energy is one of the most important economic development goals we can have as a state. As governor, I will pursue an "all-of-the-above" energy and energy exploration strategy that will help ensure we have low-cost, reliable energy, while not burdening electric cooperatives with harmful regulations. My plan to fix the economy calls for eliminating and/or combining missions for redundant commissions and committees to further streamline government. As governor, I will also fight unnecessary and burdensome mandates, taxes and regulations from the federal government.

Q: Locally owned and governed electric cooperatives do much more than deliver electricity; they actively work to improve the quality of life in the communities they serve through economic and community development projects. As governor, how will you seek the input of electric cooperatives as you encounter issues that impact the lives of those living in the rural areas of the state?

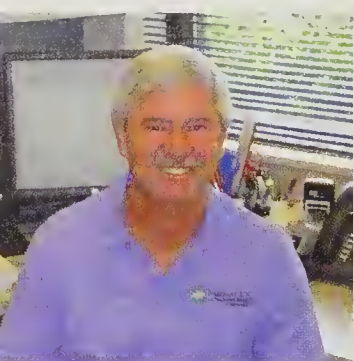
To ensure the North Carolina comeback is a success, we must recruit the best people to work in state government and have competent managers with private-sector experience in our government agencies. If elected, I will seek the input of industry leaders, especially on the utilities board, while hiring and consulting top-notch professionals with varying backgrounds to ensure we bring real-world experience to a McCrory administration. 

Can a new heating & cooling system pay for itself?

It can if the heating and cooling come from underground. Ask Gary Woods.

By Rachael Benedict

In the spring of 2011, Gary Woods began running his new geothermal system to cool and heat his 2,200-square-foot home in the Rougemont community of northern Orange



County. He had replaced two 18-year-old gas pack units that had been doing the job. The switch is saving him on average about \$100 per month.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has said that a geothermal system—also called ground-source heat pumps—may be the most energy-efficient, environmentally clean and cost-effective space conditioning systems available. And they can save consumers considerable money in energy bills while reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

What is geothermal energy?

As the earth absorbs the sun's solar energy, a geothermal system collects heat from underground and redistributes it to heat interior space and domestic water. Unlike wind or solar

energy, which is there when the wind blows and the sun shines, the ground's heat temperature remains a constant 55 degrees despite the weather. As a heat source in winter and a heat sink in summer, the constant underground temperature provides about 70 percent of the energy needed to fuel a geothermal system.

Constructing a geothermal system

Gary Woods (shown at left), an accounting supervisor at Piedmont Electric Membership Corporation, in 2011 decided to refinance his home. His plans included replacing the two gas pack units and building an in-ground swimming pool; it was then he began researching geothermal systems.

Woods looked for experienced and licensed geothermal contractors in his region and chose Evangelist Service Co. based in Apex. A contractor will review the property and subsurface conditions to determine the type of geothermal system—open or closed loop, vertical or horizontal. In Woods' case, the closed loop system was best, and the operation needed about a half-acre. Contractors also determine the appropriate size heat pump. Picking the right size system is critical to comfort and

savings—installing an undersized or oversized system can cause more issues than they solve. The contractor also evaluates and obtains the required permits and authorizations to meet local building and land-use regulations. The Woods horizontal, closed loop system did not require a permit for boring or well-drilling as is usually needed for vertical, open or closed loop systems.

Overall project construction should take about three days—weather permitting—including everything from digging the loop field to installing the heat pump and reworking the pre-existing ductwork underneath the house.

Geothermal system cost

Depending on the size of your home, the upfront cost of a geothermal system can range anywhere from \$11,000 to \$30,000. A variety of federal and state incentives can help with the cost—including a 30 percent federal tax credit and a 35 percent North Carolina tax credit. Piedmont EMC also offers rebate incentives to its residential members who install energy-efficient heat pumps, \$50 per ton up to \$200 per system.

The geothermal system cost Gary Woods \$23,500 and he will receive



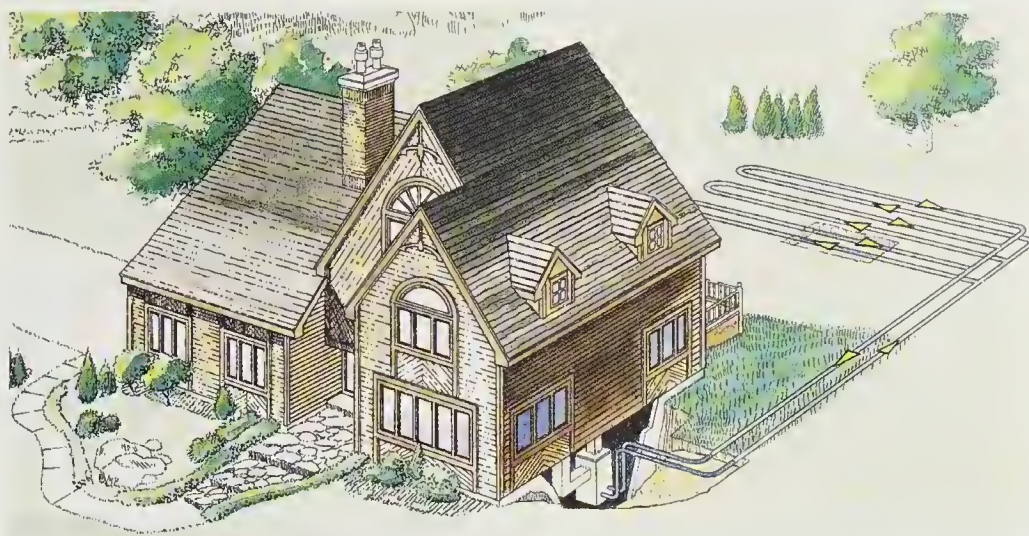
Overall project construction should take about three days—weather permitting—including everything from digging the loop field to installing the heat pump.

over \$15,000 in tax credits over the duration of about two years. If Woods had replaced the gas pack units, it would have cost about \$10,000 not to mention the cost of propane. Prior to installing the geothermal system, Woods was paying on average \$165 monthly for electricity and \$190 for propane. Hypothetically, if he continued to pay \$190 a month for propane (for another 18 years) he would pay almost twice as much for fuel as the geothermal system cost to install.

While the initial cost of installing a geothermal system is higher than most heating and cooling systems, it will produce a significant cash flow during its life cycle, which is over 20 years. Most conventional gas furnaces last 7 to 10 years and have an efficiency rating of 85 percent, whereas geothermal heat pumps deliver a 400 percent efficiency rating—for every \$1 you pay in electricity you get \$4 of heating and cooling. In the end, Woods' initial investment could be recouped in two years due to the greater efficiency of his geothermal system coupled with state and federal tax credits.

Life with geothermal


There are a host of benefits to living



This illustration shows a horizontal closed loop system similar to the one Gary Woods installed.

with a geothermal system. Owners can expect to see a 50 to 70 percent reduction in their overall heating and cooling costs, depending on what fuels they compare. And the comfort of living with geothermal heating and cooling is nice, too. The indoor unit makes about the same noise as a refrigerator, and since it is underneath the house it is virtually silent. The system not only boasts more consistent air temperatures than conventional air-source heat pumps, but its air purification and dehumidification provide superior air comfort and quality. The Woods system also employs a desuperheater that provides all the preheating for his 48-gallon water heater tank.

Woods' average monthly electricity costs now are about \$266, which is adjusted to account for the cost of running two pool pumps during the

summer. The pumps use about 866 kilowatt-hours, or about \$90-\$100 per month based on Piedmont EMC's rate. Yet despite substantially increasing his energy consumption with two pool pumps, Woods is still saving almost \$100 on his monthly bills on heating and cooling. "I would recommend it," he says, "especially if you have the space and need to replace your old unit. I saved over \$1,500 before I even turned the system on." 

Rachael Benedict is the communications and social media intern at Piedmont EMC. She holds a degree in political science from UNC-Chapel Hill and is pursuing a career in communications and public relations. She lives in Efland, Orange County.

For more information and a tool for learning about these systems and whether they are right for you, go to www.geothermalgenius.org.



Heat pump and reworking the pre-existing ductwork underneath the house.

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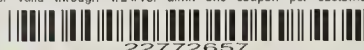
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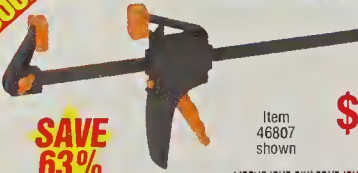
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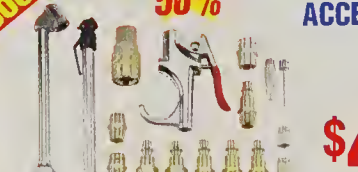
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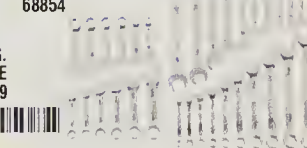
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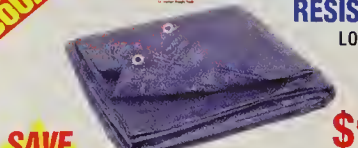
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Dispelling common myths about CFLs

Efficient options include dimmers, new designs

U.S. retailers have been switching out traditional incandescent lightbulbs with more energy-efficient options because of new regulations under the federal Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 that began taking effect this year.

Compact fluorescent lamps (CFLs) are the most widely available technology that meets the law's provisions. Consumers are relying more heavily on CFLs but also expressing misconceptions — myths that the Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI), a non-profit research consortium, would like to dispel. Here are top CFL myths:

Myth: CFLs cannot be used in 3-way fixtures.

Several manufacturers have developed 3-way CFLs that provide performance equivalent to traditional 3-way incandescent lamps and also operate in standard 3-way sockets. As with incandescent bulbs, 3-way CFLs are offered in a variety of wattage and light output combinations, including:

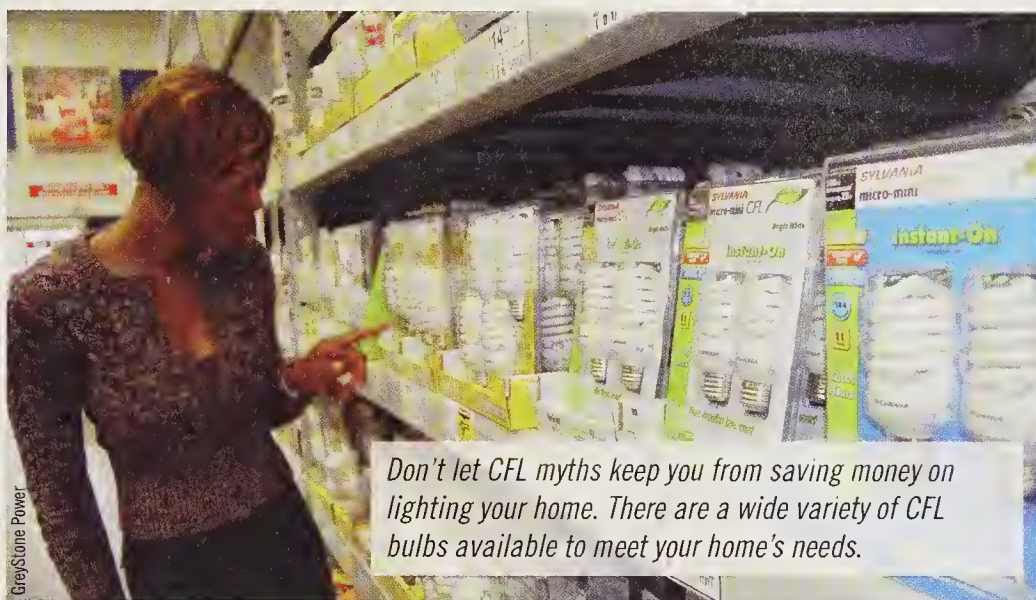
- A 12/23/29-watt CFL equivalent to a 50/100/150-watt incandescent
- A 14/19/32-watt CFL equivalent to a 40/75/150-watt incandescent

Different manufacturers use slightly different wattages and lamp designs to match the output of traditional 3-way incandescent bulbs. Try different 3-way CFLs to find the design that best suits your needs.

Myth: Dimmable CFLs do not work with standard line dimmers.

While dimmable CFLs are available today, not all dimmable CFLs are compatible with every dimmer. There are also different CFL dimming ranges, with some dimming from 100 to 10 percent, others from 90 to 30 percent.

Incandescent lamps are frequently dimmed with standard electronic line dimmers — rotary, slide or touch dimmers. Dimmable CFLs that specify “true dimmability” are most likely to be compatible with most rotary or programmable dimmers.



Myth: CFLs do not last as long as advertised.

If installed properly, a CFL offers energy savings and longer life than incandescent lamps. Installing a CFL in a recessed can fixtures not rated for its use will likely shorten the lamp's life. Most reflector-type CFLs are rated for use in cans, and some twist-lamp CFLs can be used in cans. Package labeling specifies whether a CFL can be used in recessed cans. (Always read packaging closely.)

The life of a CFL also depends on how frequently you turn it on and off. Some manufacturers list the recommended average number of daily switchings along with the rated number of operating hours. Switching on a CFL more frequently than the recommended average can shorten its life. If you use CFLs with occupancy sensors, purchase CFLs with the longest life rating.

Myth: CFLs do not fit in fans or candelabras.

CFL products available include various wattages and designs that can be screwed directly into specialized fixtures such as fans, candelabras, chandeliers and wall sconces.

Typically, lamps in fans and candelabras are highly visible, so you need to consider the aesthetics of your choice. Manufacturers now offer design options such as frosted glass, “flame” lamps, curled lamp tips and traditional incandescent shape.

Myth: CFLs are too expensive and costly to dispose.

The cost of CFLs has dropped significantly as higher consumer demand drives increased production. Also, free disposal sites are available. To learn more about lighting changes, visit www.energysavers.gov/lighting. ⓘ

Local CFL disposal sites

CFLs today contain only trace amounts of mercury, usually less than that found in a can of tuna. But it's still important to properly dispose of used or damaged CFLs. Consumers can find safe, free disposal sites through their local waste management hauler and retailers in North Carolina such as Lowe's and Home Depot or via online resources like www.earth911.org (put in your zip code to find the nearest drop-off site or recycling center).

Fright night

Don't let electrical hazards haunt your Halloween

Halloween is the most festively frightening night of the year. But don't make yours fraught with danger! Here are some safety reminders for the holiday:

- As you're decorating, make sure you check for cracked sockets, frayed, loose or bare wires, and loose connections.
- Fasten all outdoor lights securely to trees and other firm supports. Do not use nails or tacks that could puncture insulating cords and damage wires.
- Make sure decorative lighting is well-ventilated, protected from weather, and remains a safe distance from anything flammable like dry leaves and shrubs. Do not coil extension cords while in use or tuck them under rugs or drapes.
- Make sure all outdoor electrical lights and decorations are plugged into an outlet protected with a ground fault circuit interrupter (GFCI). If your outlets aren't equipped with GFCIs, have an electrician install them or buy a GFCI adapter plug. Don't overload outlets with too many extension cords and strands of lights.
- Keep power cords off walkways and porches that trick-or-treaters may use. You don't want them to trip.
- Leave the porch light on for trick-or-treaters, and be sure to turn out all spooky lights and decorations before leaving home or going to bed. This will also save energy.

For more tips, visit www.SafeElectricity.org.

Fang-tastic festivities in N.C.

Do you prefer your children eat, drink and be scary at organized events instead of traditional-style trick-or-treating? Or simply want to find a frightfully fun event for your family to enjoy? There are loads of festivities in the state to choose from. Local YMCAs and churches often hold parties and festivals. For haunted houses, get a list of "Hallo-scream" sites by searching "North Carolina" at www.hauntedhouse.com. The state's three Aquariums (Fort Fisher near Wilmington, Pine Knoll Shores near Atlantic Beach and Roanoke Island in Manteo) are holding Trick or Trick Under The Sea events. Call the main office in Raleigh at (800) 832-3474, search online by site name, or visit www.ncaquariums.com. Ghost walks and tours include ones in Wilkesboro, Wilmington, Washington, Salisbury, Davidson and Elizabeth City. Check this magazine's Compass calendar section and visit www.carolinacountry.com (click on Carolina Adventures, then Calendar of Events) or go to www.visitnc.com for more about Halloween events.



Willie Wiredhand, the mascot of electric cooperatives, encourages all mini-members to be safe this fall!

Trick-or-treat safety tips

- Knives, swords and similar accessories should be soft, short and flexible.
- Wear well-fitting costumes to avoid tripping and falling.
- Add reflective tape to costumes and bags so drivers see you.
- Hold a flashlight to help you see and so that others see you.
- Walk, don't run, from house to house.
- Don't ever enter a home unless you are with a trusted adult.
- Examine all candy for tampering before eating. Eat only factory-made (not homemade) sweets with unbroken wrappers.
- Avoid trick-or-treating alone.
- Wear flame-resistant costumes.
- Never walk close to lit candles or luminaries.

Renters insurance

Policies protect possessions and provide peace of mind

For about 37 million Americans, renting a house or apartment is more affordable, and sometimes even preferable, to home ownership.

Unfortunately, according to the Bureau of Justice Statistics, renters are 50 percent more likely than homeowners to be robbed. Likewise, the National Fire Protection Association reports that 270 apartment fires break out each day in the United States. While homeowners are required to have insurance against these types of problems, most renters are not.

“Renters insurance is one of those things you hope you never need, but accidents do happen — and it pays to make sure you and your property are fully protected,” said Kathy McDonald, president, Property Solutions at Assurant Specialty Property. “In addition to protecting your possessions, renters insurance can protect you against personal liability, too. If you accidentally start a kitchen fire or flood in the bathroom and it damages your apartment, or a neighbor’s apartment, you’re the one that’s liable, not your landlord.”

Getting the right coverage

Your local insurance agent can give you specifics based on North Carolina laws and the kind of policy you want. Ask questions such as:

- What hazards are included? Do I need a separate policy for specific circumstances?
- Are my roommates covered by the policy?
- What optional coverage is available (such as flood or earthquake coverage)?
- How much liability coverage is provided?
- Will I receive additional living expenses if I have to live elsewhere while my apartment is being repaired?
- Do I need additional coverage for damages or injuries caused by my pet?
- Does my policy cover items stolen or damaged while not on the property (i.e. stolen from your car)?

You can download a document from the North Carolina Department of Insurance’s website, www.ncdoi.com, that explains basic renter insurance coverages and answers frequently asked questions by North Carolina consumers. You can also call the department at (800) 546-5664.

—*Family Features.com*



Extended service contracts

These contracts can help you protect your valuable possessions such as major appliances and electronics from mechanical failure, breakage and other perils after the manufacturer’s warranty expires. They help ensure these expensive items get repaired quickly and provide additional coverage that renters insurance won’t cover.

An extended service contract provides for normal wear and tear as well as accidental damage. You get 24/7 customer and technical support, coverage for 100 percent of the parts and labor cost, and assistance from licensed and insured trade professionals.

When looking for an extended service contract, ask:

- | | |
|--|---|
| ■ What are the terms and conditions of the coverage? | ■ Who pays for shipping and handling if a product must be returned? |
| ■ Does it provide toll-free telephone and/or online access to technical support? | ■ Does it provide in-home service? |
| ■ Does the contract include a “no lemon” policy? | ■ Does the contract include accidental damage coverage? |

To learn more about extended protection plans, you can visit www.assurantsolutions.com/extendedprotection or www.facebook.com/AssurantSolutionsSocial.

A colorful roof for all seasons

Native mosses on this roof tolerate full sun, weather extremes and control storm water runoff

Cool and green describe the new Moss Green Roof at the North Carolina Arboretum located in Asheville. It shows how indigenous mosses can achieve year-round green beauty as well as how mosses tolerate full sun exposure.

Sun mosses, not shade mosses, are featured in this roof, designed to imitate a western North Carolina mountain landscape. In addition, rainwater is employed for a misting irrigation system to keep the mosses lush.

Annie Martin, known as Mossin' Annie, an environmental moss artist/landscaper and owner of Mountain Moss in Pisgah Forest, spearheaded the roof project.

Green roofs reduce the heat index of a building and provide storm water runoff solutions, Annie Martin says. "For most green roofs, sedums are usually the plants of choice. However, since mosses already grow on roofs in our mountain region, it makes sense to intentionally choose indigenous mosses as a horticultural preference."

The demonstration green roof is on the garden shed located just outside the Baker Education Center at the arboretum.

Utilizing bryophytes (mosses) that like direct sun exposure, Mountain Moss transformed a bright tin roof into a verdant expanse of moss art. With various shades of green and textures, the mosses will provide additional color with brilliant reds, golds and bronzes when in sporophytic reproductive stage. When other garden plants are dormant or dead, the mosses will keep on producing, even in winter months.

Planted during the summer heat wave while temperatures were in the high 90s, the Moss Green Roof has been subjected to the stresses of extreme weather conditions. Yet, despite heat, torrential thunderstorms, high winds and hail, the mosses are intact and adjusting to their new



abode. With botanical characteristics that enable mosses to tolerate all types of extremes, these miniature plants are hardy. In the winter when temperatures drop below freezing, the mosses will not only survive, but grow.

Another aspect of the green appeal of mosses is that these non-vascular plants provide solutions to environmental issues such as storm water runoff, water filtration and erosion control. Since mosses don't require any pesticides, herbicides or fertilizers, there will be no groundwater contamination.

Other Transylvania County residents involved in the production of the green roof included Joe Bruneau, 7 Arts Co-op Gallery director, and Eric Stephenson, owner of Rite Angle Builders. With minimal structural modifications necessary to prepare

the roof, the team used EnkaDrain (produced by Colbond in Enka) as the primary substrate for planting. Kevin McRae of K2 Irrigation in Asheville connected the existing rain water cistern into a misting system for the mosses. Supplemental watering is a key factor in long-term success of any moss feature.

In keeping with the mission of arboretum to cultivate connections between people and plants through creative expressions of landscape stewardship, this moss green roof project promotes conservation and education. The product was funded by the North Carolina Arboretum Foundation Society. ⓘ

To learn more about landscaping options featuring mosses, visit www.mountainmoss.com. For arboretum information, visit www.ncarboretum.org.

WHERE IN
CAROLINA COUNTRY
IS THIS?

This is a Carolina Country scene in Touchstone Energy territory. If you know where it is, send your answer by Oct. 8 with your name, address and the name of your electric cooperative.

By e-mail: Where@carolinacountry.com

Or by mail: Where in Carolina Country?
P.O. Box 27306
Raleigh, NC 27611

Online: www.carolinacountry.com

Multiple entries from the same person will be disqualified.

The winner, chosen at random and announced in our November issue, will receive \$25. To see the answer before you get your November magazine, visit our website www.carolinacountry.com



September winner

More than 2,300 of you—from all over the state—recognized the scene in the September photo. It is a section of the restored fort at Fort Macon State Park on Bogue Banks, Carteret County. It vies with Jockey's Ridge as North Carolina's most-visited state park. The Battle of Fort Macon was fought here in March and April 1862. Nearby is a swimming beach. The park is open year-round. The winner, whose correct answer was selected at random from all the submissions, was Frankie Livingston of Rowland, a member of Lumbee River EMC.

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Remember...



My nephew walked among the pumpkins trying to lift the heaviest ones.

Pappaw's pumpkins

A summer never rolled around that we didn't reap the benefits of my grandfather's hard work in the garden. One summer before I left for college, Pappaw hinted that he'd need me later in the fall to help harvest his first pumpkin patch. Nana wrote me nearly every week at school, and come early October she sent word that the pumpkins were ready.

Nana's mouthwatering breakfast was waiting when I arrived with my 11-month-old nephew, Brett, in tow. He would walk in and out among the pumpkins trying to pick up the heaviest ones. When the last pumpkin was pulled, the trailer was groaning from the load of over 70 pumpkins. Pappaw decided that maybe he was a little too generous with the seeds. He had hoped for enough to share with all of his grandchildren, but he didn't expect this many. When I pulled out of their driveway, my little Toyota truck was loaded with 30 of them.

A few days later, I returned to college. Halfway back, I stopped for gas and some folks noticed my pumpkins. When they pulled away with three in their trunk, I thought, "Only 27 more to go!" As I drove, I made a mental list of friends who would get a piece of Pap's bumper crop. At a quick stop in Greenville, I was able to unload six more.

When I got to campus, I began to worry whether I would ever find enough people to take a pumpkin. I carried my choice pumpkin to the dorm, picturing it carved and giving a warm glow to remind me of the day with my Pappaw. Soon, the inquiries began, word spread like Pappaw's pumpkin vines, and within 24 hours his pumpkins had found homes all across campus.

Our pictures are a heartwarming reminder of that day, but a lasting image in my mind was gazing across campus when darkness fell and seeing jack-o-lanterns of all sizes and shapes that came from my Pappaw's first pumpkin patch.

Tina H. Williams, Asheboro, Randolph Electric

The old cider mill

This photo shows my dad, Bruce Stinson, and my son Aaron making apple cider with the old cider mill from my great-grandfather. Aaron's brother, Jason, and my mom and I watched and kept throwing apples in from my dad's trees. Aaron is turning the wheel, and Dad is punching apples down with the wooden pole. We did this every summer for years, then enjoyed the cider for weeks. My dad passed away five years ago, but we have such fond memories of doing things with him that he did when he was growing up on the farm.

*Jan Stinson Clark,
Indian Trail, Union
Power Cooperative*



My dad and son working the cider mill

The bottom set

On October 4, 1956, my sister and I were helping our mother peel pears for her to can. We were both expecting babies at the end of October. My baby couldn't wait. Mom loaned me a sweater because the weather was chilly. My husband picked me up and took me to the hospital. My son was born later that afternoon.

About a week or so later, Mom called and asked me if I still had her sweater. I told her I did, and I would have my husband take it to her. She said, "Don't worry about the sweater. Just see if my bottom denture is in the pocket."

The sweater and denture were returned to her the next day.

Pat C. Bradshaw, Iron Station, Rutherford EMC

SEND US YOUR *Memories*

We'll pay \$50 for those we publish in the magazine. We can put even more on our Internet sites, but can't pay for them. (If you don't want them on the Internet, let us know.)

Guidelines:

1. Approximately 200 words.
2. Digital photos must be at least 600kb or 1200 by 800 pixels.
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Getting To Know...

Cullen Jones

Known for: U.S. competitive swimmer and Olympic gold medalist

About: Born in 1984 in the Bronx, N.Y., Cullen Jones learned to swim at age 5 after being rescued from a near-drowning at a Pennsylvania water park. He began swimming on club teams and graduated from St. Benedict's Prep in Newark, N.J., in 2002 while setting numerous Essex County swimming records. At North Carolina State University, he majored in English and swam for NCSU's Wolfpack team in National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) competition. At the 2005 World University Games, he won the gold medal in 50-meter freestyle, becoming the first African American to win a gold medal at these games. He turned pro in 2006, signing with Nike, and set a meet record in the 50-meter freestyle at the 2006 Pan Pacific Swimming Championships. He also swam a leg in the world record-breaking 4-by-100-meter freestyle relay along with Michael Phelps, Jason Lezak and Garrett Weber-Gale. He also won a gold medal in 4-by-100-meter freestyle relay with the same teammates in the 2007 World Aquatics Championships. Jones is the second African American to hold or share a world record (4-by-100-meter freestyle relay) in swimming (after Anthony Ervin). At the 2008 Olympic Games, he again took the gold medal with teammates in the relay. At the 2012 Summer Olympics, Jones won silver medals and a team gold medal. In his spare time, Jones is dedicated to helping minorities learn to swim. He speaks motivationally and conducts clinics and lessons through the USA Swimming Foundation's Make A Splash program.



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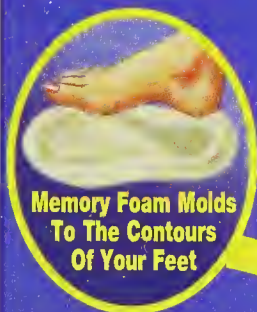
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Do you know ...

that Nebraska is in North Carolina? Yup, Nebraska is an unincorporated community in Hyde County (near Cape Hatteras National Seashore). Other N.C. places that share names with sites elsewhere include Minneapolis (Avery County), Bolivia (Brunswick County) and Peru (Onslow County). North Carolina also has its share of humorous and odd place names, including Chuckle (Wilkes County), Elf (Clay County) and Hairtown (Harnett County). For additional names, visit www.accuracyproject.org/towns.html.

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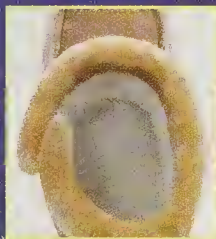
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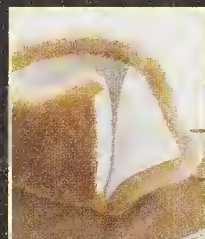


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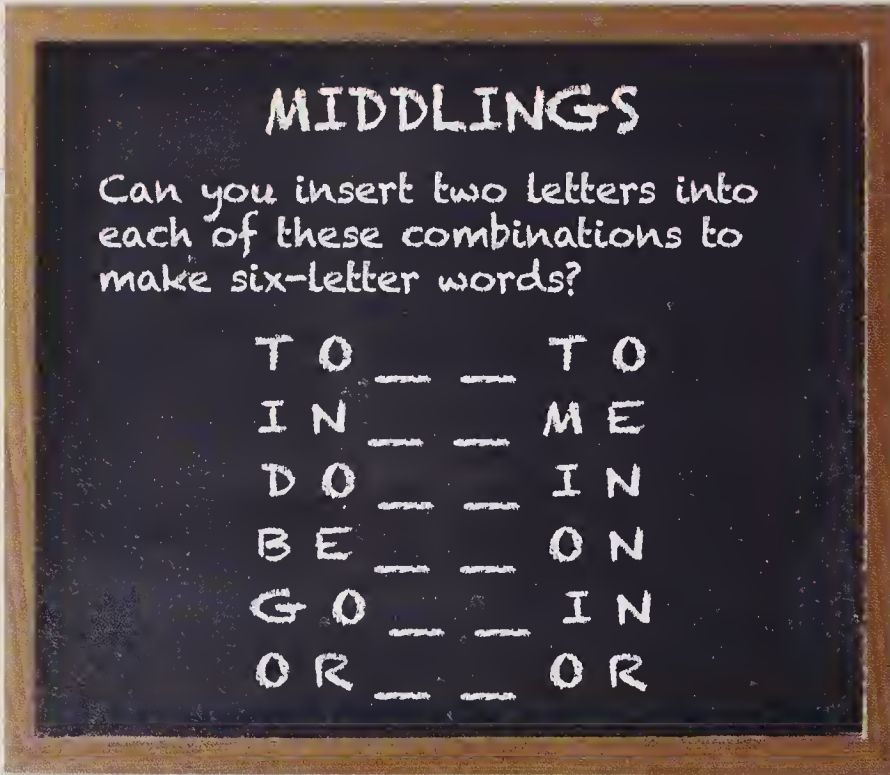
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For answers, please see page 41

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Pyracantha: autumn fire

Whether showing off hot oranges or simmering reds, the mature berries of pyracantha are hard to miss in the fall. Its sharp barbs are also hard to miss, hence the alternate name “firethorn.”

Pyracantha is a well-suited shrub for Carolina Country conditions. Although it is best to plant this ornamental in well-drained soil, it will still do fine in heavy clay. After becoming established, it can also withstand hot, dry conditions. And for the best berry production, it demands full southern sun.

Some pyracanthas grow aggressively, reaching heights beyond 15 feet and spreads of 10 feet, but they can be tamed by regular prunings. To control their size, cut them back lightly in late fall—a chore that also provides fresh, colorful berry stems for indoor holiday arrangements. As an alternative, prune during the spring bloom to avoid cutting off all the flowering berries-to-be.

Don't like to prune sticker bushes? Consider planting shorter, restrained varieties such as ‘Santa Cruz,’ ‘Apache’ or ‘Red Elf’.

Lace bugs and spider mites can occasionally be a problem, but a few applications of insecticidal soap will keep these pests at bay.

Diseases might also sporadically crop up—two in particular are scab and fire blight. Scab can put a bad case of ugly on pyracantha. Infected bushes have off-green, sooty spots on the foliage, and the leaves eventually turn yellow and fall off, while the berries become covered with lesions and blacken.

With fire blight, new growth withers and turns black. If the disease advances far enough down the limbs, berries will also darken. One way to control this disease is to prune out the infected areas.

Prevention in the form of resistant cultivars is another way to keep these diseases away. Good choices include ‘Mohave,’ ‘Rutgers,’ ‘Shawnee,’ ‘Red Elf,’ ‘Apache,’ ‘Teton’ and ‘Pueblo’.

Garden To Do's

October

- ▶ Winter squash and pumpkins store better if they are harvested with a few inches of stem still attached.
- ▶ Raked leaves have to go somewhere, so why not dispose of them while preparing for next year's garden? Both jobs can be done at the same time if you use “useless” leaves to start a compost pile.
- ▶ As perennials die back or are pruned down for the season, place markers beside them so they won't be dug up during next spring's planting frenzy.
- ▶ Add cheerful color to the fall and winter gardens by starting beds of pansies now.
- ▶ Remove gasoline from any motorized equipment that will be stored for the winter.



The colorful berry stems of the firethorn (pyracantha) make good indoor holiday arrangements.

November

- ▶ Light frost on your Brussels sprouts, collards, kale or spinach? Good! A little icy covering improves their taste.
- ▶ Any hardy herbs such as chives, dill, fennel, tarragon or rosemary that are still in the garden can be used as flavorings for herb vinegars, which make great Christmas presents for gardening friends.
- ▶ Have a strange spring-flowering bulb but don't know which end to plant up? Plant it sideways.
- ▶ Rake spent foliage, fallen blooms and summer mulch out of the rose bed, and replace with a fresh, 2- to 3-inch-thick winter mulch.
- ▶ Remember your feathered friends this winter by regularly cleaning and refilling the birdbath and feeder. Also, on extremely cold days, remove ice from the birdbath and replace it with fresh water. 📌

L.A. Jackson is the former editor of Carolina Gardener Magazine. If you would like to ask him a question about your garden, contact L.A. at: lajackson1@gmail.com.

Tip of the month

After autumn's leaf fall, clean the water garden, but don't be too thorough. Leaves, sticks and other floating debris can be removed, along with replacing about 20 percent of the existing water with fresh water, but a complete cleaning removes algae and beneficial microorganisms that have built up in the pond, which would damage the biological balance that makes the water garden work so well as a small ecosystem.

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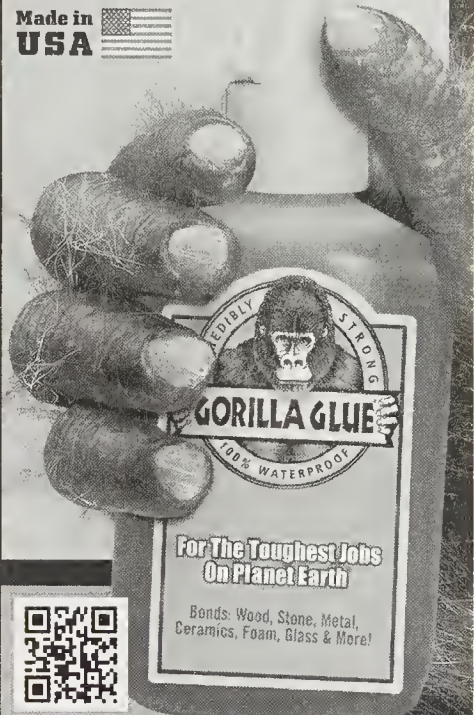
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Folk School Fall Festival
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Lake Eden Arts Festival
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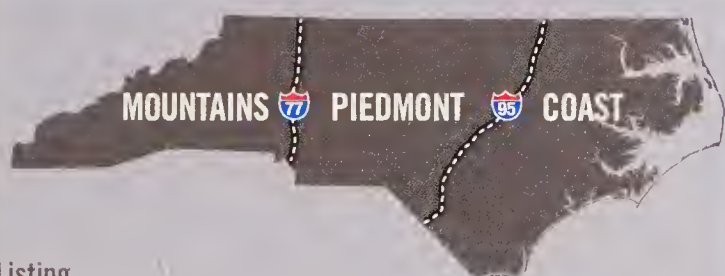
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Through Oct. 13, Boone
(828) 266-1345
www.hickoryridgemuseum.com

Ghost Train Halloween Festivities
Through Oct. 27, Blowing Rock
(877) 893-3874
www.tweetsie.com

Art Walk
First Fridays through Nov. 2, Murphy
(828) 494-7403
www.valleyriverarts.com

Country/Bluegrass Jam Session
Friday nights through Nov. 30,
Lake Toxaway
(828) 966-4060

Alleghany Jubilee
Through Dec. 28, 2013
(Tues. & Sat. nights)
Sparta
(336) 372-4591
<http://alleghanyjubilee.com>

Music At The Mills
Oct. 5–Dec. 28, Union Mills
(828) 287-6113

Peanuts Pumpkin Patch Express
Oct. 6–28, Bryson City
(800) 872-4681
www.gsmr.com

The Colors Of Grandfather
Oct. 13–21, Linville
(828) 733-2013
www.grandfather.com

Winnie The Pooh
Oct. 19–Nov. 4, Hickory
(828) 327-3855
www.hct.org

Piedmont (between I-77 & I-95)

Cycle NC Mountains-To-Coast Ride
Festivities in host city
Oct. 4–5, Lumberton
(910) 739-9999
www.lumberton-nc.com

Meals On Wheels Food Truck Rodeo
Oct. 5, Carrboro
(919) 932-3436
www.chcmow.org

Splash Of Color
Fiber art & quilt show
Oct. 5–6, Concord
(704) 701-2108
www.cabarrusquiltersguild.org

Ruritan Rodeo
Oct. 5–6, Efland
(919) 732-7322

Ava Gardner Festival
Oct. 5–7, Smithfield
(919) 934-5830
www.visitsmithfield.org

Gaston Gun & Mineral Show
Oct. 5–7, Dallas-Gastonia
(704) 739-4333

Fall Festival 10K Run
Oct. 6, Asheboro
(336) 626-1240
www.asheboronc.gov

Antiques Fair
Oct. 6, Cameron
(910) 245-3415
www.antiquesofcameron.com

Sonker Festival
Music, dancing
in honor of deep-dish pie
Oct. 6, Mount Airy
(336) 789-4304

Historical Walking Tour
Oct. 6, Pilot Mountain
(336) 345-0328
www.walkpilotours.com

Cumberland Metric Century Bike Ride
Oct. 6, Fayetteville
(910) 483-5311
www.fcpr.us/special_events.aspx

Blue Jean Chair-ity Auction
Handpainted chairs, dancing
Oct. 6, Fayetteville
(910) 483-5311
www.childadvocacycenter.com

Bluegrass Concert
Destination Bluegrass Band
& Betty Griffin
Oct. 6, Albemarle
(704) 791-7399
www.littlecreekmusicpark.com

AutumnFaire
Handcrafted jewelry, pottery, gourd art
Oct. 6–7, Belmont
(704) 825-4490
www.dsbg.org

Heritage Festival
Oct. 7, Fayetteville
(910) 483-5311
www.capefearbg.org/heritagefestival.php

Festifall
Oct. 7, Chapel Hill
(919) 968-2784
www.chapelhillparks.org

Legally Blonde
Musical comedy
Oct. 9–14, Raleigh
(919) 831-6941
www.nctheatre.com

Dark In The Park
With Bethabara Concert Band
Oct. 11, Winston Salem
(336) 924-8191
www.bethabarapark.org

Oyster Roast
Oct. 11, Hope Mills
(910) 483-5311
www.fayettevillencchamber.org

The Tribute
Beatles show
Oct. 12, Rocky Mount
(252) 985-5197
www.ncwc.edu/arts/dunncenter

Quilt Show & Four Oaks Festival
Oct. 12–13, Mocksville
(336) 940-3385
<http://historicdowntownmocksville.com>

Quilts Of The Valley
Oct. 12–14, Hickory
(828) 228-8515

Cotton Ginning Days
Oct. 12–14, Dallas
(704) 825-4044

Fall Festival
Oct. 13, Belmont
(704) 825-4044
www.cityofbelmont.org

Old Fashion Day
Oct. 13, Goldston
(919) 898-4937
<http://e-clubhouse.org/sites/goldston>

Hawaiian Luau Dinner & Show
Benefit for Armed Forces Museum
Oct. 13, Mint Hill
(704) 847-4634
www.visitafmac.org

West End Poetry Festival
Oct. 13, Carrboro
(919) 918-7364
www.westendpoetryfestival.org

Fort Bragg Area History Tour
Oct. 13, Fayetteville
(910) 483-5311
www.visitfayettevillenc.com/events

Peddlers Flea Market
Oct. 13, Carthage
(910) 528-0542
www.thepeddlersfleamarket.com

Autumn Fest
Oct. 13, Mebane
(919) 304-7054
www.downtownmebane.com

"Out of This World" Concert
Oct. 13, Fayetteville
(910) 483-5311
www.fayettevillesymphony.com

Alamance Artisans Guild Studio Tour
Oct. 13–14, Graham
(919) 563-9905
www.alamancestudiotour.com

Moorefields On The Lawn
Fundraiser with music, dinner
Oct. 14, Hillsborough
(919) 732-4941

Author Christopher B. Teuton
Cherokee stories
Oct. 15, Chapel Hill
(919) 962-0585
www.uncpress.unc.edu

Robert Kaplan Lecture
What the map tells us
of coming conflicts
Oct. 17, Pinehurst
(910) 245-3132
www.sandhills.edu

Country Buffet & Bazaar
Oct. 18, Fayetteville
(910) 286-3435

**East Coast Drag Times
Hall of Fame & Reunion**
Oct. 19–21, Henderson
(252) 438-2222
www.kerrlake-nc.com

Dinner In The Dirt
Trick riders, equestrian benefit show
Oct. 19–20, Huntersville
(704) 919-0683
www.DinnerintheDirt.com

Fly Fishing Expo
Oct. 20, Mount Airy
(336) 710-3024

Ole Mill Day
Oct. 20, Hope Mills
(910) 483-5311
www.visitfayetteville.com

Swap Meet/Flea Market
Oct. 20, Lillington
(910) 985-2222

Music At Marvin
Oct. 20, Fayetteville
(910) 484-8768

Rogue Rollergirls
Intense roller derby action
Oct. 20, Fayetteville
(910) 483-5311
www.roguerollergirls.com/default.aspx

Kellie Pickler & Bucky Covington
American Idol stars
Oct. 25–26, Hamlet
(910) 410-1691
www.richmondcc.edu

Orange County Artists Studio Tour
Opening Reception
Oct. 26, Hillsborough
(919) 732-5001
www.hillsboroughgallery.com

Shuckin' And Shaggin'
Oct. 26, Raleigh
(919) 833-4226

4th Friday At Market House
Celebration of the arts
Oct. 26, Fayetteville
(910) 483-5311
www.visitfayettevillenc.com/events

Schiele-O-Ween
Stage show, trick or treating
Oct. 26, Gastonia
(704) 825-4044
www.schielemuseum.org

Ghost Walking Tours in Old Salem
Oct. 26–27, Winston Salem
(336) 728-4211
www.visitwinstonsalem.com

Seaboard Festival
Oct. 27, Hamlet
(910) 417-7791
www.hamletnc.us

Civilians' Persimmon Fest
Food, bluegrass music, clogging
Oct. 27, Farmer
(336) 953-2991

Barbecue Festival
Oct. 27, Lexington
(336) 956-1880
www.barbecuefestival.com

Fall Art Fest
Oct. 27, Lewisville
(336) 945-3287
www.thecoffeemillinc.com

Halloween Bash
Oct. 27, Belmont
(704) 825-4044
www.belmontparksandrec.com

Botanical
Plant-based activities
and ghoulish games
Oct. 27-28, Belmont
(704) 825-4490
www.dsbg.org

Art Outside the Box
Oct. 28, Raleigh
(919) 818-5191
www.ncsu.edu/gregg

Hallow's Eve Cemetery Walk
Oct. 30, Fayetteville
(910) 483-5311
www.faydogwoodfestival.com/historic-hauntings

ONGOING

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Dinner, music, fellowship
Tuesday nights, Midway
(910) 948-4897
www.liveatclydes.com

Durham Civil War Roundtable
Third Thursdays, Durham
(919) 643-0466

Art After Hours
Second Fridays, Wake Forest
(919) 570-0765
www.sunflowerstudiowf.com

Betty Lynn (Thelma Lou)
Appearance at Andy Griffith Museum
Third Fridays, Mount Airy
(336) 786-7998
www.visitmayberry.com

Arts Councils' Fourth Friday
Fayetteville
(910) 483-5311
www.theartscouncil.org

Church Dinner Theater: I'll Cross That Bridge When I Get To It
Oct. 5-20, Fayetteville
(910) 483-5311
www.northwoodtemple.org

Art After Hours
Guest Artist Kitty Deemer
Through Oct. 6, Wake Forest
(919) 570-0765
www.sunflowerstudiowf.com

Jesus Christ Superstar
Rock opera
Through Oct. 7, Fayetteville
(910) 323-4233
www.cftrt.org

The Fantasticks
Through Oct. 7, Fayetteville
(910) 678-7186
www.gilberttheater.com

God Of Carnage
Comedy
Through Oct. 13, Charlotte
(704) 342-2251
www.atcharlotte.org

Meditations
Paintings, blown glass
Through Oct. 21, Hillsborough
(919) 732-5001
www.hillsboroughgallery.com

Ships and Their Shores Exhibit
Through Oct. 25, Goldsboro
(919) 734-5023
www.waynecountyhistoricalinc.org

Civil War Commemorative Exhibit
Through Oct. 29, Charlotte
(919) 807-7386
www.nccivilwar150.com

Ribbit
Andy Cobb's large-scale
frog sculptures
Through Oct. 31, Fayetteville
(910) 483-5311
www.capefearbg.org

Music Barn Bluegrass Concerts
Through Dec. 31, Mt. Gilead
(910) 220-6426
www.mgmusicbarn.com

Al Norte al Norte:
Latino Life in North Carolina
Prize-winning photographer's images
Through April 28, 2013, Raleigh
(919) 807-7900
www.ncmuseumofhistory.org


Motor Speedway Racing
Oct. 6-Oct. 27, Fayetteville
(910) 483-5311
www.thenewfayettevillemotorspeedway.com

Historic Haunting Hayride
Oct. 20-22 & 27-29, Fayetteville
(910) 483-5311
www.faydogwoodfestival.com/historic-hauntings

Around the World in 80 Days
Oct. 26-Nov. 11, Fayetteville
(910) 483-5311
www.cftrt.org/index.php

Coast (east of I-95)

Micro-Raising With Galvanic Etching
Workshop on creating forms
from sheet metal
Oct. 1-5, Columbia
(252) 796-2787
www.pocosinarts.org



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The project received support from
Golden LEAF FOUNDATION

Open King Mackerel Tournament

Oct. 4–6, Southport
(800) 457-6964
www.usopenkmt.com

75th Anniversary School Celebration

Entertainment, food, games
Oct. 5–6, Pantego
(252) 943-2485
tccschool.com

OBX Lighthouse Keepers' Weekend

Lighthouse visit, cruise ship dinner
Oct. 5–7, Cape Fear area
(919) 787-6378
www.oblhs.org

Arts On The Perquimans

Oct. 6, Hertford
(252) 426-7463
www.perquimansarts.org

International Festival

Oct. 6, Greenville
(252) 329-4200

Alzheimer's Walk & Education Fair

Oct. 6, Washington
(252) 927-4754

Century & Half Century Bike Ride

Oct. 6, Camden
(252) 338-1919
www.active.com/cycling/camden-nc

Farm Heritage Day

Oct. 6, Calabash
(910) 287-6794
www.indigofarmsmarket.com

Community Yard Sales

More than 40 families
Oct. 6, Swan Quarter
(252) 926-9311
yardsales@embarqmail.com

Carolina Bridal Show

Oct. 7, Greenville
(252) 329-4200

Brunswick Art Show & Sale

Oct. 8–13, Calabash
(910) 575-5999
www.sunsetrivermarketplace.com

Solomon Cup

Oct. 9–13, Bald Head Island
(910) 256-9742
www.baldheadisland.com

Music Faculty Recital

Oct. 11, Mount Olive
(919) 658-2502
www.moc.edu

Free Boot Friday

Alive-at-five event
Oct. 12, Greenville
(252) 329-4200
www.uptowngreenville.com

Gloriana & Casey James

Country music
Oct. 12, Mount Olive
(919) 658-7897
www.moc.edu/fallfest

Poplar Grove Halloween Festival

Oct. 12–14, 19–21, Wilmington
(910) 686-9518
www.poplargrove.com

Scuppernong River Festival

Oct. 13, Columbia
(252) 796-2781

Classic Kayak Fishing Tournament

Oct. 13, Oak Island
(800) 450-6819
www.nckfa.com



CAROLINA COUNTRY adventures

Day Trip

Mumfest & Ghostwalk in New Bern

Two popular events make this historic waterfront town especially inviting this month. **Mumfest** is set for Saturday and Sunday, Oct. 13–14. This award-winning, free festival draws 80,000 attendees, boasting diverse live music, amusement rides, arts and crafts, tasty concoctions and crowd-pleasing dance troupes, magicians and clowns. New this year: SeaFair, a floating art ship. The megayacht (228 feet long and nearly six stories high) sports 30 galleries of international sculpture, jewelry, collectibles and fine art, along with lounges and a coffee bar. SeaFair is hosting the inaugural New Bern Art Fest (Oct. 12–14) and will be docked by downtown's Hilton during Mumfest. Other exciting Mumfest attractions include the high-energy King BMX stunt show, athletic feats by the Purina Dog Team, artists painting at ArtZone, a huge model train, 5K run and a new Outdoor Life venue. For more on Mumfest, call (252) 638-5781 or visit www.mumfest.com. SeaFair tour tickets are \$15, day of. For advance discount tickets, visit www.expoships.com.

Later in October, New Bern's ghosts will share intriguing stories from their mortal existence at **Ghostwalk: Spirited Through Time**, set for Thursday–Saturday evenings, Oct. 25–27. This year, 19 sites are participating, with spirited entertainment at businesses, Cedar Grove Cemetery and historic homes, churches and theaters. The “ghosts” are actually lively costumed characters who bring the city's rich history to life. Suffragettes will be picketing



SeaFair, a 228-foot-long floating art ship, new this year at Mumfest

on Middle Street and Civil War soldiers will relate their experiences at their Neuse River bank encampment. Also check out the singing monks and Agony Alley, a kid-friendly haunted house. Tickets are \$20, day of. For more about Ghostwalk and to purchase advance discount tickets, visit www.newbernhistorical.org

Ongoing New Bern attractions include unique shopping and antiques, guided tours at Tryon Place (gardens are free during Mumfest), carriage rides and tugboat cruises.

—Karen Olson House

Learn of other nearby adventures and events:

(252) 637-9400
www.visitnewbern.com

Fall Days—Farm Ways

Museum photographs, demonstrations
Oct. 13, Pantego
(252) 927-2570
www.pantegoacademy.com

Quilt Show

Oct. 13–14, Wilson
(252) 291-9443

Mumfest

Oct. 13–14, New Bern
(252) 349-4741
www.mumfest.com

Mullet Festival

Oct. 13–14, Swansboro
(252) 354-9500
www.swansborofestivals.com

Baroque Arts Project

Oct. 18, Mount Olive
(919) 587-7491
www.moc.edu

Old School R&B

Oct. 19, Greenville
(252) 329-4200

NC State Senior Games

Three on three basketball tournament
Oct. 19–21, Greenville
(252) 329-4200
www.ncseniorgames.org

Nunsensations:**The Nunsense Vegas Revue**

Musical comedy
Oct. 19–21, Ayden
(252) 329-4200
www.aydencommunitytheatre.com

Old School Sorghum Festival

Oct. 20, McDaniel's
(910) 564-5069
www.oldschoolsorghum.com

St. Timothy's Lobster Fair

Oct. 20, Greenville
(252) 329-4200
www.st.tim.org

Minority Expo

Oct. 20, Winterville
(252) 329-4200
www.theminorityexpo.com

Healthy Living Expo

Oct. 20, Greenville
(252) 329-4200
www.pcwomensjournal.com

Dismal Day Festival

Oct. 20, South Mills
(252) 771-8333
www.dismalswampwelcomecenter.com

Chuck Brodsky Concert

Oct. 20, Beaufort
(252) 354-2444
www.downeastfolkarts.org

Carolina Bay Outdoor Festival

Oct. 20, Red Springs
(910) 843-5000
www.capefearscots.com

Beaufort County Auction

Oct. 20, Washington
(252) 945-5172
www.beaufort-county.com/Humane

Woman's Club Golf Tournament

Oct. 20, Arapahoe
(252) 249-0978
www.orientalwomansclub.org

BHSP 5K Pirate Fun/Walk

Oct. 20, Bath
(252) 923-7831
www.BHSP5K.com

Oyster Festival

Oct. 20–21, Ocean Isle
(800) 426-6644
www.ncoysterfestival.com

Discover Colonial America

Colonial education fair
Oct. 23, Murfreesboro
(252) 398-6319

Pirate Jamboree

Games, period re-enactors
Oct. 26–27, Ocracoke
& Hatteras Islands
(800) 892-5314
www.piratejamboree.com

The Really Chili Challenge

Oct. 27, Goldsboro
(919) 731-3939

Festival by the Sea

Oct. 27–28, Holden Beach
(800) 426-6644
www.hbmerch.com/events.html

Coastal Arts & Craft Day

Hatteras Civic Center
Nov. 3, Hatteras
(252) 986-2376

ONGOING**40+ Adult Fun & Fitness**

First and Third Tuesdays through
Nov. 27
(910) 347-5332
www.onslowcountync.gov/parks

Art Walk

First Friday, Elizabeth City
(252) 335-5330
<http://ecncart.com>

Art Walk

First Friday, Greenville
(252) 329-4200
www.uptowngreenville.com

Civil War Commemorative Exhibit

Through Oct. 29, Jackson
(910) 807-7386
www.nccivilwar150.com

New Ruralist Living Art Reception

Through Oct. 30, Enfield
(252) 592-1588
<http://thelodgeatroanokevalley.com>

Plantation's Halloween Festival

Oct. 12–21, Wilmington
(910) 686-9518
www.poplargo.com

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Fix the fan

Q: I have mold growing on my bathroom ceiling despite having a bath fan. I installed a new bath fan but that didn't fix the problem. What should I do?

A: Often the problem is not with the fan but with the installation. Grab this checklist, some toilet paper, a ladder, flashlight and a screw driver so we can diagnose the problem. The fixes are often a one-man DIY project. In the case of my home, it was a one-woman endeavor.

1. Start in the bathroom.

✓ **Test:** If the fan holds two stacked 2-ply squares of toilet paper at the fan grille, the fan is pulling approximately 50 cubic feet per minute (cfm), which is ideal. If the fan pulls less than 50 cfm, let's start the investigation.

2. Cut off the circuit breaker to the fan and leave a note that says you are working on the fan.

3. Remove the fan cover.

✓ **Rating:** Look for a sticker or stamp that indicates the rating. Ratings of 50 cfm and 70 cfm are typical. Subtract 20 from the rating. This is the most air you should expect the fan to pull.

✓ **Sealing:** The fan housing (metal box) should be caulked to the ceiling drywall. This will ensure that air is being pulled from your bathroom rather than the attic.

4. Remove the fan so you can reach the start of the duct. Take note of how everything is put together so that you can put it back properly.

✓ **Damper:** Bath fans have a back-draft damper to keep outside air from entering the bathroom. Tap the damper to make sure it swings freely. You may need to remove shipping tape or you'll find that the ductwork is holding the damper shut. Use your hand to gently straighten the duct.

5. Head up to the attic. If your fan is between floors, skip this step and move to the outside.

✓ **Connection:** Using a flashlight from a distance, make sure that a duct is attached to the fan and directed to an outside termination. A 4-inch insulated duct is ideal. Some homes will have the fan blowing moist air into the attic. Moist bathroom air in the attic will often cause rot and mold damage to your roof or ceiling. An easy fix is to have roofers add a termination to the roof when installing new shingles.

✓ **Length:** The duct needs to be as short and straight as possible. If the duct needs to be shortened, be careful not to crush the ceiling insulation or fall through the ceiling. Use a metal tie band (like you'd find on a dryer duct) to reattach the shortened end. If you want this repair to last, do not use duct tape.



To test your bathroom fan, place a two-ply tissue on the grille and see if the fan holds it.

6. Go outside to the termination if you can safely reach it.

✓ **Termination:** Make sure the termination operates freely. Remove any remaining packing tape.

✓ **Connection:** Verify the duct is attached and open to the termination. Sometimes the duct can get bunched and prevent air from leaving. Fairly often, I find that the termination was never cut into the roof, wall or soffit. A handyman can easily solve this problem.

7. Cut the fan power back on and head out to your local hardware store.

Your fan should not sound like a jet engine. If the fan rattles, the fan box might not be securely attached to the ceiling joists. Refer to the installation manual and a handyman to get this fixed.

Another curve ball might be the duct diameter. My parents installed a 70 cfm-rated fan that won't pull more than 20 cfm. Why only 20 cfm? When they replaced the fan, they used the old 3-inch duct even though the fan instructions called for a 4-inch duct. Don't expect a more powerful fan to pull more air. The connections, ductwork and termination play key roles in the fan's performance.

Operable bath fans are very important for all homes, because a lot of steam is produced from bathing. Getting the steam out of the house is the best solution for preventing mold or mildew growth. ⓘ

Hannah McKenzie is a residential building science consultant at Advanced Energy in Raleigh (www.advancedenergy.org) who specializes in working with nonprofit developers like Habitat for Humanity to make new affordable housing energy efficient.

For a picture guide, visit: www.advancedenergy.org/buildings/affordable_housing/systemvision/wp-content/uploads/downloads/2012/01/BathFanInstallation.pdf

Business Opportunities

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METAL ROOFING FACTORY DIRECT visit us at our 5 Carolina locations 336-625-9727, Asheville; 919-775-1667, Sanford; 704-732-4007, Lincolnton; 828-686-3860, Asheville; 864-228-2800, Greenville. Shop online at www.triadmetalroof.com

How to Place a Classified Ad

Deadlines

For publication in Carolina Country magazine, submit your ad by the 25th of the month approximately 5 weeks before publication (e.g., June ad due April 25). Orders received after deadline will be published in the following issue.

Costs & Word Limitations

- For Carolina Country magazine: \$2 per word (\$20 minimum per ad). Maximum of 75 words.
- Every word counts, including “a” or “the.” A phone number counts as one word (enter these as 555-555-5555). A website address counts as one word.
- Payment must accompany order. We accept Visa, MasterCard or American Express, or make checks payable to “Carolina Country.”
- No refunds. No discounts.

Ads That Reoccur Monthly

If you’d like to repeat the same ad for a number of months, we can set you up. You’ll need to use a credit card for payment.

How to Send

Use our website’s form to compose your ad and pay by credit card. You can also fill out online and print a different form (PDF format) if you’d like to pay by check. Or call us and we’ll mail you a form. Return the ad information and check (payable to “Carolina Country”) to: Carolina Country Classifieds, P.O. Box 27306, Raleigh, NC 27611-7306.

Classified ads will not be accepted by phone.

Other Guidelines

- Limit 2 ads per month per advertiser.
- Ads accepted on a space-available basis.
- First-column line printed in uppercase.
- No “personals” accepted.

For More Information

Call Jenny Lloyd at 800-662-8835, ext. 3091.

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EMERALD ISLE CAMP OCEAN FOREST Campground. Camping next to the ocean. Call 252-354-3454 for reservations.

BEACH HOUSE. N. Myrtle Beach, SC. 4BR/2B, sleeps 12–14. 828-478-3208. Request photos: bnagel36@charter.net

Real Estate

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BEAUTIFUL BLDG W/ ROCK CONDO, 2/2, 1530SF. Incredible Grandfather Mountain views. Top floor, one level. Walk to town, dining and shopping. See in Realtor.com, MLS Id. 167470—\$379,900. Call 828-265-4925.

10 MILES OVER VIRGINIA LINE: Corapeake, NC. 3200’ home, 4BR/2½ BA, 10 acres, \$300K. More acres available. 757-641-7573.

Gold Maps

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Grab-N-Ghost Munch

- 2 cups Corn Chex
- 2 cups miniature pretzels
- 1 cup dry roasted peanuts
- 20 caramels, coarsely chopped
- 1 package (10 to 12 ounces) white baking chips

In a large bowl, combine the first four ingredients. In a microwave, melt chips; stir until smooth. Pour over cereal mixture and toss to coat.

Immediately spread onto waxed paper-lined baking sheet; let stand until set, about 20 minutes.

Break into pieces. Store in an airtight container.

Yield: 6 cups



From Your Kitchen

Pumpkin Fudge

- 2 tablespoons butter
- 2½ cups white sugar
- ⅓ cup evaporated milk
- 1 jar (7 ounces) marshmallow cream
- ¾ cup pumpkin puree
- 1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 1 bag (12 ounces) white chocolate chips

Line a 9-by-9-inch pan with aluminum foil; set aside. In a 3-quart saucepan, heat milk and sugar over medium heat. Bring to a boil, stirring occasionally with a wooden spoon. Mix in pumpkin puree and cinnamon. Bring back to a boil. Stir in marshmallow cream and butter. Bring to a rolling boil and cook for 18 minutes, stirring occasionally. Remove from heat; add vanilla and white chocolate chips; stir until creamy. Pour into prepared pan. Cool, remove from pan and cut into squares. Store in refrigerator.

This recipe comes from Lisa Jane Brown of Siloam, a member of Surry-Yadkin EMC

Send Us Your Recipes

Contributors whose recipes are published will receive \$25. We retain reprint rights for all submissions. Recipes submitted are not necessarily entirely original. Include your name, address, phone number (for questions), and the name of your electric cooperative. Mail to: Carolina Country Kitchen, P.O. Box 27306, Raleigh, NC 27611 or E-mail to: Jenny.Lloyd@carolinacountry.com.



Tater-Topped Casserole

- 1 pound 90 percent lean ground beef
- ½ cup chopped onion
- ⅓ cup sliced celery
- ½ teaspoon salt
- ¼ teaspoon pepper
- 1 can (10¾ ounces) condensed cream of celery soup, undiluted
- 1 package (16 ounces) frozen Tater Tots
- 1 cup (4 ounces) shredded cheddar cheese

In a large skillet, cook the beef, onion, celery until the meat is no longer pink and the vegetables are tender; drain. Stir in salt and pepper.

Spoon mixture into a greased 3-quart baking dish. Spread with soup. Top with frozen potatoes. Bake at 400 degrees for 40 minutes or until bubbly. Sprinkle with cheese. Bake for 5 minutes or until cheese melts.

Yield: 4-6 servings

Frosted Peanut Butter Bars

- ⅓ cup shortening
- ½ cup peanut butter
- 1½ cups packed brown sugar
- 2 eggs
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 1 ½ cups all-purpose flour
- 1 ½ teaspoons baking powder
- ½ teaspoon salt
- ¼ cup milk

Frosting:

- ⅔ cup creamy peanut butter
- ½ cup shortening
- 4 cups confectioners' sugar
- ⅓ to ½ cup milk

Topping:

- ¼ cup semisweet chocolate chips
- 1 teaspoon shortening

In a large bowl, cream the shortening, peanut butter and brown sugar until light and fluffy. Beat in eggs and vanilla. Combine the flour, baking powder and salt; gradually add to creamed mixture alternately with milk, beating well after each addition.

Transfer to a greased 15-by-10-by-1-inch baking pan. Bake at 350 degrees for 16-20 minutes or until a toothpick inserted near the center comes out clean. Cool on a wire rack.

For frosting, in a small bowl, cream the peanut butter, shortening and confectioners' sugar until light and fluffy. Gradually beat in enough milk to achieve spreading consistency. Frost bars.

In a microwave, melt chocolate chips and shortening; stir until smooth. Drizzle over frosting. Store in the refrigerator.

Yield: 5 dozen

Find more than 500 recipes at www.carolinacountry.com

Recipes are by Taste of Home magazine, unless otherwise indicated. For a sample copy, send \$2 to Taste of Home, Suite 4321, PO Box 990, Greendale WI 53129-0990. Visit the Web page at www.tasteofhome.com.



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